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Letter from Mary C. Rion to Thomas G. Clemson, 1887 October 12

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Winnboro'

Oct. 12th 1883

My Dear Mr. Clemson,

This is the anniversary of our good friend's death - Col. Starke. That day, you will remember how I had a vision of him just at the hour of dissolution as I went into his bed-room. So this morning while I was eating breakfast, in conversation with a friend at table, I referred casually to him & thought at once - "this is Col. Starke's anniversary day of his death." May not his spirit be hovering near us in our desolation. No doubt he is in a better world & a kindred spirit ^{may} be with him, realizing those inspirations they sometimes indulged in when together on earth in regard to the Blessed future.

Maggie moved all her furniture & plunder round to her Brother Willie's house two weeks ago. She went last week to Florida's in Columbia to spend the winter. I had a room furnished there for her use last winter. I expect, if I succeed in selling or renting my residence, to break up housekeeping as there is ^{now} only Hanna left with me. So far I have failed in my efforts. But I still hope. I am very lonely since Maggie left.

We are continuing to have superb weather. I never saw such a cotton crop as has been harvested here this year. Every thing has been propitious to the farming interests. I trust you have been equally favored at Fort Hill. I shall be glad to hear from you whenever

you feel able to write. Episie at least can write me sometimes. How is her health now? I hope improved. I enclose 20 cts for Episie in stamps which was due her on the Beer which was \$1.80 instead of \$2. which Mrs. Prince gave me.

Hanna has just gotten a very sweet-toned new violin in exchange for her little one she had last summer. Playing on yours made her quite out of conceit of hers. The one she has is larger, but is only a $\frac{3}{4}$ size still. She unfortunately still has no Teacher. She has been quite unwell for several days with headache, but I think it is only indigestion. She had improved wonderfully since she came home & is fat & rosy. She is attending the Free school now.

Hoping this will find you in your usual good health
Remembrances to Episie } I have the honor to be
& Mrs. Prince. } Yours afft. Mary C. Rice

May M.C. Rice Oct 12
Elmhurst